necessary relief by means of civil suits. He therefore suggested that the power to rectify settlement and survey mistakes might be conferred on the Land Revenue Commissioner.

He next complained against the issue of separate demand notices for properties included in one patta and requested that orders be issued for only one notice being sent in such cases. He suggested that the security deposits of Proverthicars, etc., be invested in banks at 9 per cent. interest and that the pay of the low-paid subordinates of the Revenue Department be further increased. The Member also suggested that stringent orders be issued to work the Land Conservancy Regulation and rules in a just and humane manner.

Taking up next the Education Department for review, the Member observed that the number of young men holding certificates of qualification was on the increase every year and that the ranks of even graduates were swelling. Those young men found it very difficult to earn a living, and, to his mind, the only way of solving the problem was to introduce some handicraft in the curricula of studies such as weaving and spinning.

In speaking about English schools, the Member submitted that, till at least the Form III standard, the medium of instruction should be Malayalam in respect of all subjects except the English language. The pupils should be permitted to answer examination papers also in their mother language. Such a step would help to promote the advancement of the vernacular.

The introduction of manual training in Malayalam schools was not productive of any substantial result in the direction of vocational training. The Member therefore suggested that steps be taken to spread a system of education which would enable the recipient to turn to some sort of occupation in later life. The Government had often stated that it was their avowed policy to give due encouragement to the vernaculars, and the Member said that all that he prayed for was to give practical effect to that policy.

Finally, the Member represented the need for an agricultural demonstration farm at Parumala and for effective steps being taken to extirpate the insect pests incidental to paddy and cocoanut cultivation.

President's reply.—The Director will be asked to examine the scheme for the introduction of vocational education referred to by you. As regards the opening of an agricultural demonstration farm at Parumala, the Director of Agriculture will be consulted as to its necessity. He will also be asked to render the necessary further help in the matter of removing the insect pest and other difficulties under which agriculturists labour.

I understand that at present several cases of patent settlement mistakes are being reported to Government and the mistakes are being rectified in individual cases. The power to order the rectification of such mistakes now vests in the Government. The question whether that power may be delegated to the Land Revenue Commissioner will be considered.

Orders will also be issued to the Land Revenue Commissioner to see that the Land Records Maintenance and Land Conservancy Rules are worked in practice with care and moderation.

As regards the Tiruvalla road and the bridges thereon you say that only three-fourth of a mile yet remains to be made cartable. The Chief Engineer tells me that the matter is under correspondence with the Executive Engineer and that an estimate is expected from him.

146. Local needs.

Mr. C. Raman Pillai B. A., B. L. (Member, Quilon taluk) pressed on the attention of Government the urgency of the following works:—

1. Metalling the road from Kavanattu bazaar to Aravillakadavu, west Quilon.

The Member said that the above was a sandy lane 2 furlongs long and 15 to 20 feet broad and largely used for goods traffic. It connected the Aravilla landing place where there was a Sirkar ferry with Kavanattu bazaar, which was one of the important thoroughfares of Quilon. Two great obstacles in the way of converting that lane into a road were its steep ascents and its sandy character.

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The people of the locality had consented to provide the labour and money required to make the lane even and it was prayed that the Government might allow them to carry out that portion of the work and metal the road at their own cost. He requested the Government to issue instructions to the P. W. D. to take the necessary initiative in the matter by moving the people to complete their portion of the work within a time-limit.

2. Raising the culvert and providing a dam with sluice to the Vattakkayal channel.

The Member said that on either side of the channel there were cocoanut plantations which were being injuriously affected by the influx of salt water from the Neendakara lake and prayed that a dam might be so constructed across the channel, as not to be an obstacle to the free passage of comparatively small-sized canoes along the channel.

3. Conversion of the lane from the Quilon Residency road to the Uliakoil backwater into a cart road.

The Member said that the same prayer had been made at successive sessions of the Assembly and yet Government had not done anything in the matter so far. He requested the Government to issue prompt orders to the P. W. D. to take up that work.

4 Putting up walls round the compounds of the Government English and Vernacular schools in the town.

The Member said that in the case of the Government English High School only a portion of the southern side of the compound had to be provided with walls, the remaining sides being already enclosed. As regards the vernacular school, he pointed out that its compound had no walls except on a portion of the eastern side. He also said that the compounds were getting very insanitary owing to the nuisance committed by the people, and prayed that both those school compounds might be protected by walls without delay.

5. Providing parapet walls round the Kammankulam tank and repairing the drains on its eastern side.

The Member stated that that tank was in a filthy condition, and was a source of danger to public health. The tank was surrounded by public roads and uninhabited waste lands and all the filth in those areas was washed into those tanks during the monsoon. He requested the Government to issue orders to the P. W. D. to construct parapet walls around the tank before the next monsoon and also to provide proper drains on the eastern border of the tank so that the accumulation of water on that side might be effectively checked.

6. Improvements to the western bank of the canal from the Big Bridge to the Iron Bridge.

The Member prayed that the above question be favourably considered by the Government.

The Member next spoke about the undesirability of imposing prohibitive rates of *taravila* for assigning the southern portions of the Asramam lake in the Trikkadavur *pakuthi*. He said that the backwater had to be used for soaking cocoanut husks for the extraction of fibre therefrom by those engaged in the coir industry, which formed the means of livelihood of a large section of the people of the locality. Although portions of the Asramam backwater were too deep to be easily enclosed and utilised for soaking cocoanut husks, yet as soon as those portions were occupied and the work begun by the people, the Taluk authorities threatened them with eviction and demanded *taravila* at such exorbitant rates as Rs. 700 per acre. The Member quoted instances in which such rates of *taravila* were actually levied in 1098 and 1099, although the lands involved in those cases would not ordinarily fetch a *taravila* of more than Rs. 300 per acre if disposed of by public auction or by private negotiation. He therefore prayed that instructions be issued so that moderate rates of *taravila* might be charged in such cases.

The Member regretted that, in spite of previous representations on the subject and a local inspection by the Dewan, no satisfactory solution had yet been arrived at in regard to the location of the small-pox hospital. The small-pox hospital being at present situated far away from the main hospital, it was not possible to secure the proper attendance of hospital subordinates and the efficient supervision of

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the controlling authority. As matters stood, the victims to the disease were also denied the soothing effects of proper nursing, which would go a great way in mitigating the sufferings of the unfortunate patients. The Member urged that the only way of securing those advantages was to accommodate the small-pox hospital within the premises of the Quilon hospital, but as far removed from the main building as possible. The objection to the proposed arrangement could be no more than sentimental and was not insuperable. On the score of sentiment, the present location of the small-pox hospital was equally objectionable, situated as it was in the vicinity of two tile factories where more than 3,000 operatives were employed daily. If the present arrangement had necessarily to be continued, the Member was of opinion that a committee of supervision, consisting of the Surgeon in charge of the Hospital, the Municipal Chairman, and two respectable citizens of the locality might be appointed, the members being asked to make daily visits to the hospital and report on the working of the institution and as to how the patients were nursed and treated by the subordinates concerned.

His next representation was for an extension of the Saktikulangara girls' school building, so that it might accommodate more classes. There were four classes at present and the department was contemplating the opening of class V. But the desire of the department was that the people should provide the necessary extension and that had been made the condition precedent for the opening of additional classes. That was a hard condition. The contention of the Member was that three more classes could be opened in the present building itself. The Member explained that the dimensions of the present building were 38′ by 20′, and that, under the provisions of the Education Code, 345 pupils could be accommodated in a building of that area, while there were only 249 pupils at present. The boys who were studying in class III could be sent to the two boys' schools situated in the vicinity of the girls' school. Calculated on the basis provided in the Code, 96 more pupils could be admitted. In other words 3 additional classes of 30 pupils each might be newly added to the school. If the walls standing close to each other in the middle of the building could be removed without damage to the building itself, that would give more space. The Member added that the people would contribute towards the extension of the building, if a reasonable time was given to them to raise funds. In conclusion, the Member prayed that (1) a building grant might be given if the people were to put up the extension ; (2) that class V be opened at the beginning of the next school year ; (3) that the school be provided with a well and a latrine and also a clock; and (4) that a head-mistress be posted to the school in lieu of a head-master.

In speaking about the necessity of providing grazing grounds for the town of Quilon, the Member pointed out that the invasion of every inch of land by the wealthier classes of people for building purposes, etc., left very little space to be used as grazing ground for cattle, etc., as the result of which poor people were put to much hardship and inconvenience. He thought it highly necessary in the interests of the general health of the people to improve the condition of cattle by providing sufficient grazing grounds for them and suggested the appointment of a committee of non-officials and officials of the Agricultural Department to investigate the question.

He next urged the desirability of opening an agricultural demonstration farm at Quilon and selling scientific manures at cheap rates. He said that the endeavours of the scientific agriculturists of the department had not succeeded in making the majority of the agriculturists move to any appreciable extent from their accustomed groove, that that was due to the inadequacy of the demonstration and propaganda work of the department, and that, although Quilon was the head-quarters of the Director of Agriculture and Fisheries, it could not boast of either an Agricultural Inspector or an Agricultural Farm. As the people of Quilon were totally ignorant of scientific methods of cultivation, the Member urged the necessity for vigorous propaganda and demonstration work being carried out in all parts of the taluk until the ryots were thoroughly educated in the method of improved scientific cultivation. He therefore suggested that a demonstration farm might be opened at Quilon and that demonstration work might be conducted not only in the model farm proposed to be opened but also on paddy fields and gardens belonging to private owners selected for the purpose.

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As regards the use of scientific manure, the Member said that the poor agriculturists were unable to resort to it owing to the heavy price at which it was sold by the department. The hand-to-mouth existence of poor ryots naturally made it difficult for them to invest sufficient capital on scientific manures. The poor ryot thought that it was beyond his means to purchase such manures. The Member, therefore, suggested that scientific manures be made available to poor agriculturists at such rates as they could afford to pay for purchasing ordinary manures. The reduction of prices of scientific manures should be made with reference to the market price for ordinary manure : and any slight pecuniary sacrifice that the Government might have to make would be more than compensated for when the ryots learnt from their own experience that an extra amount spent on improved manure would bring them a proportionately higher margin of profit and when the demand for scientific manure would consequently be increased.

The Member next dealt with the opening of a dairy farm at Quilon. He pointed out that it would be a blessing to the people of the locality in two ways. Firstly, it would ensure the supply of pure and unadulterated milk, ghee, etc., to the town and its suburbs. Secondly, it would improve the breed of local cattle. The large demand for good and pure milk, ghee, buttermilk, etc., in the town for dietary and medicinal purposes could be taken as a sure index of the commercial success in maintaining a diary farm at Quilon, and the improvement of the breed would, in a few years, minister to the agricultural needs of the country by a steady supply of excellent bulls for ploughing, etc.. The Member, after mentioning in detail the various advantages of opening a dairy farm, suggested that it might be opened at Quilon on a modest scale, in the beginning, with 100 cows. Some 300 acres of land in the neighbourhood of Quilon and easily accessible by backwater or by railway might be reserved for growing fodder for the cattle and that the details of the practical working of the farm might be left to be arranged by a committee that might be appointed for the purpose. He concluded his representation by referring to the desirability of the Government taking an initiative in such matters and said that it might be safely asserted that there was a large volume of intelligent public opinion emphatically countenancing the Government's initiative in the matter of industrial undertakings. He instanced the opening of the aluminium and chrome leather factories by the Madras Government in spite of the protest made by the London Chamber of Commerce and said that the support and co-operation of organised Governments were necessary for pioneer work in the field of industry and that, when the success of a particular undertaking was demonstrated to the public, it might be sold to private agencies at a profit.

President's reply.—As regards the road from Kavanattu bazaar to Aravillakadavu, will the people be ready to give the required lands ?

Member.—There is no necessity for the acquisition of lands.

President.—Then there is no difficulty to accede to your request. 22 feet of land are required, and if that condition is satisfied, the road will be metalled.

In regard to the construction of a road from the Residency road to the Uliakoil backwater, the matter will receive further attention. The report was to the effect that the people were not willing to part with the lands necessary for the work. Unless they are prepared to co-operate, Government cannot do anything in the matter.

Member.—To whom should they hand over the lands ?

President.—To the local Tahsildar.

Member.—A notice to that effect shouldbe published so that the people may be aware of it.

President.—That can be done.

As regards the culvert, the dam and the sluice referred to by you, the Chief Engineer will be asked to make an investigation in the matter.

An estimate for Rs. 2,500 has been sanctioned for the construction of the compound walls on the northern and western sides of the local English school.

Member.—North and west are the unprotected sides.

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President.—As regards the vernacular school, the work will be taken up next year if funds permit. The attention of the Director of Public Instruction will be drawn to the matter.

With regard to the construction of parapet walls round the Kammankulam tank and the repair of the drains on the eastern side, your representatations will be examined.

As regards *taravila* you said that the rate fixed as minimum was Rs. 25. But I understand that *taravila* has been fixed in three cases ranging from Rs. 2 to Rs. 7 per cent, *i. e.*, Rs. 200 to Rs. 700 per acre. These cases are under examination, and if the Government find that the rates charged are very excessive, they will interfere. The Land Revenue Commissioner also informs me that the *taravila* imposed is not excessive and that in one case he raised it from Rs. 200 to Rs. 700.

Member.—The places are used for industrial purposes and raising the *taravila* will hamper industrial progress.

President.—The matter will be considered.

As regards the Saktikulangara girls' school, the Director of Public Instruction will be asked to inspect the institution and see whether there is accommodation for opening class V without recourse being had to any additional building.

Member.—The people at any rate want class V to be opened before the extension is put up.

President.—Your representation is noted.

As regards grazing grounds for cattle, the matter will be looked into.

Member.—If the Government lands are not sufficient, private lands will have to be acquired.

President.—The matter will be examined.

As regards the dairy farm, I understand that a private farm has been already opened.

With regard to the opening of demonstration farms at Quilon, the Director of Agriculture says that there is no necessity for a departmental farm at Quilon and that demonstration farms can be opened on ryots' lands in case ryots come forward to allow experiments being conducted in their lands.

Member.—In order to induce people to come forward, Government should do something in the matter.

President.—When we have sufficient funds, the question whether a separate agricultural demonstration farm should be opened in Quilon will be considered.

Regarding the dissemination of agricultural information by the distribution of leaflets and the conduct of propaganda work, your suggestions will be noted.

Then, as regards the sale of scientific manures, the policy of the Agricultural Department has been to entrust the work of selling these manures to private individuals and Co-operative Societies. Experience shows that this system is successful. Manures can be supplied on the commission agency system to any private individual or Co-operative Society.

Member.— The present commission system does not go far enough.

President.—Your suggestions are noted.

As regards the western border of the canal between the Big Bridge and the Iron Bridge, the Chief Engineer will be asked to look into the matter and take early action.

Member.—Sir, the English School started by the Ezhavas of Parur has been recognised by the Government. This adversely affects the interests of the existing school, and the party affected was not heard before the issue of orders.

President.—In regard to your remarks about the English school at Parur, I understand that the Dewan has already passed orders sanctioning the school, provided that the conditions laid down by the Education Code in regard to equipment and furniture are satisfied.

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